

**Virginia Regiment Officers to George Washington,
November 12, 1756, Petition, Letters to Washington
and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society
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Murray Hamilton.**

FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT.

Dated at FORT CUMBERLAND 12th. Novr. 1756

SIR,

On the 5th or 6th of October, We met with a papr. in the Virginia Gazette¹ entitled the Centinel N: 10, wherein some person or persons have undertaken to calluminate Us in the most vile & scandalous Manner, on which we Address'd ourselves to Lieutn. Colo Stephen [a Copy of which Address you have herewith] desiring him to apply to the Governr. for Redress, but as his Honour has not thot. proper to give it Us, & the Time We proposed to resign being nigh at Hand, We hope You will lay our Case before the Assembly now sitting, being determined, if they take no more Notice of our Grievance than the Governr. has, no longer to serve a Country that is guilty of the basest Ingratitude to a Sett of Men who have made it their Study to defend, & protect it, at all Times: But as the Time prefixed by us for giving up our Comissions, seems to you too short, [thro' the Regard We have for his Majesty, the best of Kings, as knowing it must be of infinite Disadvantage to his American Settlements: to leave this Quartr: exposed to a rapacious & merciless Enemy] We agree at yr. Request to defer the Matter till We hear from You, whether we shall receive Satisfaction in some Measure equivalent to the Injury done Us, [and We think that Nothing less will be sufficient than the Thanks of the Assembly in the Publick prints

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for what We have already done & are still willing to do, might we with Honr. continue in a Capacity for that purpose, join'd with as publick a Declaration of their Disbelief of ev'ry Article the Centinel has alledged against Us] or, that they or the Governr. are pleased to choose & appoint a Sett of Gentlemen who will more fully ansr. their & his Expectation & perform that for their Country which it seems the Governr., if not they, little hope for from a Company of dastardly Debauchees; We say, We agree to defer it, provided either of the two things proposed be speedily done, otherwise we are as we inform'd Collo. Stephen determined soon to make good our Resolves, & expect that they or the Governr. will be answerable to Lord Loudon, or to his Majesty for the Consequences.

for We think that We cannot with Justice be blamed for any Event that shall happen after our Departure, having first acquainted the Governr. with our Determination & now the Country in General in communicating it to its Representatives.

We are not, Sir, induced to address You thro' a Conscientiousness of any Neglect, for You yr.self know & can witness for us that We have faithfully done our Duty & always with Alacrity perform'd [as far as was in our power] the Orders of our Superiour Officers, but because we imagined that you were particularly aim'd at as any among Us, We having acted in Obedience to yr. Commands.

You know & can represent better than We the Reasons why We have not with a thousd: Men [which Number We have not been always fortunate enough to have] cover'd the whole Frontiers of Virga. & made more Excursions to the Westward [tho' We don't know but that quite the Reverse to what our latent Enemy mentions of our lurking in Forts, was the Matter scrutinously examined we shou'd rather be blameable for having made them so frequently as We have] —

You can inform them, of our luxurious and dainty Living You can in short fully answer ev'ry Article that the Centinel has urged against Us & made it appear that He or his Informers were malicious, wilfull and [as they fear to discover themselves] cowardly Lyars.

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We beg of you that you will push the Matter immediatly & as soon as possible let us know their Resolves, for, as indigent as some persons have hinted Us to be we are resolved to let them see, that Men of Spirit will not bear patiently any Thing unbecoming the Character of Gentlemen—We are Sir with due Respect

Yr. mo: Obedt: and Very humble Servts:

WILLM. PEACHY

PETER STEENBERGEN

AUSTIN BROCKENBROUGH

MORD.,, BUCKNER

WM: DAINGERFIELD

JAS. BAKER

WM. BRONAUGH

W. WOODWARD

C. LEWIS

H. HARRISON

EDWD. HUBBARD

JOHN DEAN

NATHN. THOMPSON

GRIFFIN PERT

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JOHN LAWSON

THOS. COCKE

THOS. WAGGENER

ROBT. SPOTSWOOD

ROBERT MCKENSIE

JOHN LOMAX

LEOND. PRICE

HEINDK. EUSTACE

GEORGE WEEDON

WALTER STEWARD

JAS. DUNCASTON

JOHN KING

JETHRO SOMNOR

CHAS. SMITH

NATHA. MILNER

JOHN MC.NEIL

JOHN BLAGG

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JOHN WILLIAMS

JAMES ROY

BRYAN FAIRFAX

¹ The Virginia Gazette made its first appearance August, 1736,—the first newspaper published in Virginia. John Esten Cooke describes it as a “small dingy sheet, containing a few items of foreign news; the advertisements of the Williamsburg shopkeepers; notices of the arrival and departure of ships; a few chance particulars relating to persons or events in the colony, and poetical effusions celebrating the charms of Myrtilla, Florella, or other belles of the period.”